

THE NUR AF' SHAN

Vol. VIII

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No 40

FOREIGN TELEGRAMS.

London, Sept. 24.

Reuter's Kiaochow correspondent says that a Russian officer there learns that a few cases of cholera have occurred at Port Arthur.

Reuter's correspondent says that a fierce bombardment was going on at Port Arthur on the 19th and 20th.

Telegrams received in Paris from St. Petersburg state that the Japanese are delivering a furious general assault on Port Arthur and have attacked three sides simultaneously. Great anxiety is felt at St. Petersburg.

London, Sept. 25.

Reuter's correspondent wires from Tokio to-day that it is believed that the Japanese have captured six forts in the second line of defence at Port Arthur since the 19th instant.

In accordance with the decision of General Kurropatkin, General Orloff has been recalled to St. Petersburg and without further inquiry dismissed the army.

General Kurropatkin reports no fighting on Thursday and Friday.

Reuter's correspondent with General Kuroki says that the warm weather has ended, and that the sudden cold wave is causing much discomfort to the troops.

The *Times* Tokio correspondent says that General Sir William Nicholson pays a high tribute to the courtesy of the Japanese, and denies that there has been illiberal treatment on their part of foreign Attaches. He expresses the highest appreciation of the skill of the Russian engineers, and says that the capture of the entrenchments at Liao-yang was an extraordinary feat of arms.

The Tsar has appointed General Gripenberg, Commanding the Wilna District, to command the second Manchurian army. His Majesty, in a letter to General Gripenberg, says:—"The intense energy with which Japan is conducting the war, and the stubbornness and high warlike qualities of the Japanese, impel me to strengthen considerably the forces at the front in order to attain a decisive success in the shortest possible time. Owing to the number of units, it is necessary to divide the active forces in Manchuria into two armies, leaving one in the hands of General Kurropatkin whilst you will command the second. Your many years' service and warlike exploits assure me that you, following the general direction of General Kurropatkin, will lead successfully the army entrusted to you to the attainment of the object of the war."

It appears that Generals Kurropatkin and Gripenberg have an equal footing, and both are under Admiral Alexieff.

General Kurropatkin reports on the 24th that the situation is unchanged and the health of the troops is good.

Reuter's Chifu correspondent, wiring today, says that the assault on Port Arthur, beginning on the 19th, lasted for fifty hours, and, it is reported, resulted in the capture of two or three supplementary forts in the vicinity of Keekwanshan and in the driving out of the Russians from the trenches. The fighting was desperate but owing to their careful preparations the Japanese losses, though heavy, were less in comparison with previous attacks.

London, Sept. 26.

Reuter's Chifu correspondent says that a Dalny steamer reports that heavy fighting was resumed on the 24th at Port Arthur.

Reuter's St. Petersburg correspondent states that while Russia only recognises food as conditional contraband, and insists on coal being absolute contraband, she has assured Great Britain that she proposes to deal with other articles in a lenient spirit. All seizures prior to the recent decision on the subject will be referred to the Supreme Prize Court at St. Petersburg.

Reuter's Port Said correspondent says that the *Petersburg* and *Smolenok* have left. The former was allowed to take 350 tons of coal and the latter 100. Their destination is declared to be Liban.

A *Daily Chronicle* telegram from San Francisco says that the Russian warship, apparently the *Koren*, mentioned on the 16th instant, has been sighted making for the port.

The Circum-Baikal Railway was opened yesterday.

London, Sept. 27.

The Russian Cruiser *Terk* has arrived at Lisbon. The Madrid *Espana* states that the *Terk's* treatment at Las Palmas was due to the British Ambassador semi-officially giving the Spanish Government to understand that Great Britain would protest against the utilisation of Spanish territory as a base for harassing British commerce. The coaling of the *Terk* had already begun and was then stopped.

The Russian Volunteer cruiser *Nigmi Norgorod* passed the Dardanelles yesterday on route for Candia and Port Said, where she awaits instructions. She flew the commercial flag and carries no guns or munitions.

Allahabad, Sept. 27.

London, Sept. 26.—The Tsar in his letter to General Gripenberg says that the latter will "follow the general directions of the Commander-in-Chief." Some of the papers here and in Paris interpret this as meaning Admiral Alexieff, and believe that in position and authority General Gripenberg will be the equal of General Kurropatkin.—*Pioneer Special*.

London, Sept. 27.—9.8 p.m.

Lady Curzon passed a fair night last night and her general strength not has declined, but her condition is still critical. A bulletin just issued says that her ladyship is not so well, being much exhausted this evening.

Gyantse, Sept. 27.

Lhasa, Sept. 22.—The preparations are complete for our departure tomorrow. Colonel Younghusband has visited the principal monasteries and given them presents of money.

Four servants bringing up supplies from Gyantse for the Mission have been killed by brigands on the Karo-la.

Camp Jhang, Sept. 24.—The force arrived here to-day, having crossed the dangerous and precipitous road along the banks of the Kichu without casualty. Gyantse should be reached about the 5th proximo and Chumbi about the 25th.

On leaving Lhasa yesterday an affecting scene took place outside the camp, where the General was met by the Regent. The venerable monk, who was moved almost to tears, invoked the blessing of heaven on General Macdonald for having spared the monasteries from violation, and presented him with a gold image of Buddha.

The weather has been fairly fine, but rain is now falling.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

"Of all the words divine that came
 Articulate in human breath
 Than this a gentler who can name,
 Or one more gracious, ay, or just;
 "The Lord Jehovah knoweth our frame
 And He remembereth
 That we are dust" ? "

The Annual meeting of the Mussoorie Conference began on September 14th in the Union Church, Mussoorie, the Rev. J. C. R. Ewing, D. D. in the Chair. The following program of the Conference will indicate in a general way the character of the meetings and the matter of discussion.

Wednesday September 14th.—

Devotional address, Rev. J. C. R. EWING, D. D.

"The place of the foreign Missionary in the evangelisation of India"—REV. E. H. M. WALLER, M. A.

Thursday September 15th.—

Devotional address, Rev. J. E. F. HALLOWES, M. A.

"Village work: Training of Agents and Schools for Indian Christians."—REV. S. MARTIN, D. D.

Friday September 16th.—

Devotional address, Rev. J. J. LUCAS, D. D.

"The enlistment of the Neo-patriotic movement in India in behalf of Christianity."—REV. A. CROSTHWAITE, M. A.

Saturday September 17th.—

Devotional address, Rev. W. E. S. HOLLAND, M. A.

"How to present the response in the Christian faith to Indian religious aspiration."—REV. J. N. FARQUHAR, M. A.

Monday Sept. 19th.—

Devotional address, Dr. WHERRY,

"The more effective co-operation of women's work with men's."—MISS FALLON.

Tuesday Sept 20th.—

Devotional address, Rev. J. A. CULLEN, M. A.

"Work among the tribes of the Frontier."—Dr. I. L. PENNELL.

"Hostel work among students."—REV. W. E. S. HOLLAND.

Wednesday Sept. 21st.—

Devotional address, Dr. MACNICOL.

"The Chet Rami sect."—REV. J. GRISWOLD, Ph. D.

Thursday Sept. 22nd.—

"Christianity in India and in the Roman Empire. An Analogy."—REV. A. H. EWING, Ph. D.

Closing address.—REV. J. C. R. EWING, D. D.

Each paper read was followed by discussion, the speeches being limited to five minutes each. A marked difference of opinion was disclosed by these discussions on almost all the subjects of the Conference. All however acknowledge the great value of the Conference. The Devotional hour was marked by great solemnity and there was much heart searching among the members present.

The morning Bible readings which were held in three different places were fairly attended and were profitable to those who took part in them.

The evangelistic work of the Conference in the Schools of Mussoorie and Landaur was not as well organized as in former years.

On the whole the Conference continues to justify its existence. The papers will be published and can be had for one Rupee per copy by applying to the Rev. M. E. S. Holland, Secretary St John's Theological College, Allahabad.

The Christian public is hereby notified upon the following points.—

(1). The Christian Boys High School at Ludhiana, which reopened on the 23rd September is now under the Superintendence of the Rev. Elmer E. Fife, B. A. All correspondence and remittances on account of the C. B. High School should be directed to him.

(2). We wish to call the attention of all Sunday school workers to the fact that Sunday school supplies of all kinds may be had by addressing orders to Mr. M. Wylie, Mission Press, Ludhiana. All money orders for such supplies should be made payable to him.

Attention to these notices will save much time and trouble.

A called meeting of the Synod of India connected with the U. S. A. will meet at Saharunpur October 4 to hear the appeals of Munshi Gunga Pershad and the Rev. Jaimal Singh against the Presbytery of Ludhiana.

Immediately after the adjournment of Synod the Ludhiana Presbytery will meet to transact the usual business of its fall session. Members will please take notice.

The interest of the world in the United States of America is constantly increasing. In November next the election of a President will occur. The two great political parties are the Republican and the Democratic. The candidates are President Roosevelt (Republican) and the Hon. Mr. Justice Parker (Democrat). Our student friends will be interested in the following statistics of the country for the year 1903, taken from an American exchange:

The Census Bureau's estimated population for the

United States, exclusive of Alaska, for 1903 is 79,900,389. This is an increase of 3,905,811 since the census of 1900. The population is estimated for 438 cities having 10,000 or more inhabitants in 1900. According to these estimates, New York now has 3,716,139 inhabitants; Chicago is rapidly approaching the 2,000,000 mark, having 1,873,880 inhabitants; Philadelphia has 1,367,716; St. Louis has just passed and Boston has almost reached its 600,000; Baltimore has 531,313; Cleveland is now a considerable distance ahead of Cincinnati. These have 414,959 and 332,934 respectively. Buffalo also has considerably increased its population, being credited with 381,403 inhabitants. San Francisco and Pittsburg are close competitors, the former having 355,919 and the latter 345,043. Detroit, Milwaukee and New Orleans have just passed 300,000, and Washington is close to that figure. New York leads the States with 7,500,000. Then comes Pennsylvania with 6,500,000. Illinois has now over 5,000,000, Texas has passed Missouri, and comes next with over 3,000,000. How predominately the city population is in the Northeast appears from the statement that in the North Atlantic States there were 188 cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants, and in the North Central States 149, with together a population of over 21,000,000, while in all the rest of the United States there were but 101 such cities, with a combined population of 4,700,000.

A recent telegram from the *London Standard* calls attention to the fact that Japan has demonstrated to the world that what we call civilization does not necessarily belong to Christian nations. We have all been impressed by the spirit of the Japanese and especially by their treatment of their prisoners and of the sick, that Japan has adopted the civilization of the Protestant Christian nations is quite clear but to say that it has originated a civilization of its own, as the *Standard* implies, is about as sensible a statement as to say she had inaugurated a system of physical science which would compare with that in vogue among Christian nations.

The Japanese are not only ready to adopt the civilization of the west but they have narrowly approached the adoption of the Christian religion as a national religion. A Tokio correspondent of a London newspaper says:

A great religious meeting promoted by influential men was held in the public park to determine the question of founding in Japan a church pro-Christian in character, but on independent lines. Leading men consider that the time has arrived to adopt the elements approved by the majority of civilized nations. An edict establishing a national Church is not improbable. While it is not to be expected that Japan, by this move will be brought at once into the ranks of "Christian" nations, it is an indication of the heaven which is working in that nation. There are great numbers of Christianized Japanese, and the nation in its progressive steps has adopted so many of the ideas of the countries of Western Christendom, that it may possibly add that of a recognized Christian Church."

DR. MORGAN ON GENESIS.

The following outline of Dr. Morgan's address on the Book of Genesis at the Northfield Conference will interest our readers. The report is taken for the Christian: "Speaking of the difficulties that have gathered around the Pentateuch and Genesis, he said they may be named as critical, scientific, historic and moral. The critical difficulties question the Mosaic authorship, and suggest, that the book of Genesis consist of fragments, collected at different periods and by different persons.

Eighteenth century Higher Criticism suggested what is known as the "document hypothesis." This hypothesis was first propounded by Astruc, a French Roman Catholic, and adopted with modifications by Eichhorn. Finally, there came that which is described as the "complement or completion hypothesis." These are the critical difficulties.

We next come to the question of scientific difficulties. It is affirmed that there are definite disparities between the statements of Genesis and the facts of science. For instance, the history of creation is given in the first two chapters, and there are those who say it is not harmonious with what science has proved to be true. Others contend that the age of man according to the revelation of Genesis is not in harmony with what science has demonstrated to be the age of man by the study of geology. Such objections can only be dealt with fairly by carefully remembering two things: first, as to the Bible, no human interpretation of it is final, second, as to science, hypotheses must never be confounded with ascertained facts.

The first principle is this, that no human interpretation of the Bible is final. I must be prepared to change my interpretation, but not to destroy the lamp which flashes the light.

Then, as to science, I repeat that hypotheses are not ascertained facts. A generation ago a great fight was going forward, and Bible students were trembling because they thought the evolutionary theory was going to smash the Bible. No one gives heed to that scare to-day. The historical difficulties are closely associated, as a class, with the name of Bishop Colenso, and based upon the apparent contradictions and impossibility of certain things declared. But very few passages which are cited as being unhistorical, or impossible, will not admit of some other interpretation.

Lastly, we come to the moral difficulties. These are based upon some doctrine of God, and they urge the incongruity of some stories with this particular doctrine of God. How are we to deal with these difficulties? Keep two things in mind—first, the necessity for correctly understanding the story we are professing to criticize; secondly, absolute certainty that our doctrine of God is truth.

This outline gives a glimpse of the method upon which Dr. Morgan is conducting his studies. Treating Genesis as a book dealing with origins, he divides it into three heads—(1) Generation, (2) Degeneration, (3) Regeneration. Jehovah is seen seeking a man, from whom he is going to create a nation, and out of the nation He is going to find a Man, and out of that Man He is going to find redemption. Redemption is only seen in prophesy and shadow. Genesis is not a completed revelation. It demands something to come after.

Some people think worries are quite harmless. They never think of them as sins. But Jesus spoke very strongly against anxiety. He said we should never worry. It does no good. It grieves our Father for it shows distrust of his love and goodness. It is following the example of the heathen, who do not know of the Father's love for his children. Then, again Jesus says worries choke out the good which he is seeking to get to grow in us.

A Notable and Masterful Character.

The age lost one of its heroic and conspicuous characters in the death of Oom Paul Kruger, formerly President of the Transvaal Republic, South Africa, at Clarens, Switzerland, July 14. He was the idol of the Boers. His was a forceful spirit. He was born to rule. He rose to chief command in the army and made it a success in some notable campaigns. He was the nation's adviser and ruler. He secured for it independence. He ruled it for years as dictator, though he lived in democratic simplicity. He was a great hunter and fought with the lion of the forest. He passed through varied and remarkable experiences as youth, man, soldier and ruler.

He was strongly religious. He loved his Bible. It was his daily companion. He got from it his ideas of government as well as his doctrines of faith. He believed in it with the utmost confidence. It became a dominating factor in his career. It gave him comfort as well as inspiration. Some may regard his religion as that of the enthusiast and the bigot, but it enabled him to accomplish exceptional results. He may, at times, have bordered on fatalism, but he had a granitic trust and force that commanded respect and admiration.

His last days were spent in sadness and distress. Great Britain proved too much for the brave Boers, and their President was forced into exile. He found a home in France. Here he lived weary, broken-hearted, disappointed, but with the sympathy and favor of the people. His dying words showed that his heart was in the Boer land. He desired to be buried there beside his wife. Great Britain has shown her magnanimity and glory by granting this privilege. America as well as France commends and approves so generous and honorable an act. In the end, it will redound to her interest as a peace-measure.

President Kruger was open to criticism. He was not perfect. He made mistakes. He was arbitrary where he should have been conciliatory. He did not recognize new and changing conditions under an expanding civilization in South Africa. He belonged to a passing era. But he did not live in vain. The world came to know him and to admire and honor him. But it is the Boer who will never allow his name to be forgotten. He will long live in the annals of South Africa. No history of it will be complete without him as one of its unique and masterful figures.

American Exchange.

In 1840 Robert Warner, a Quaker, applied to an English life insurance company for a policy and was told that, as a total abstainer, he would have to pay an extra premium, the company holding at the moderate use of liquor tended to prolong life. Warner did not believe this theory, and started an insurance company of his own. Warner's company divided the risks it took into two classes, one made up of total abstainers and the other of men who drank in moderation. In the thirty three years from 1866 to 1898 the deaths in the list of moderate drinkers were 97 per cent of those expected; in the list of total abstainers the deaths were only 70 per cent of those expected. In other words, the death rate among moderate drinkers was nearly 30 per cent more than among total abstainers.

Growth of the Human Heart.

A scientific analysis of the growth of the human heart demonstrates the fact that the increase is greatest and most rapid during the first and second years of life, its bulk at the end of the second year being exactly double what it originally was. Between the second and seventh years it is again doubled in size. A slower rate of growth then sets in and continues during the period of maturity of other portions of the body. After the fifteenth year up to the fiftieth the annual growth of the heart is about .061 of a cubic inch, the increase ceasing about the fiftieth year.

The German population of the world is about 88,000,000, and of this number 10,920,000 are in the United States.

A COLLISION AT SEA.

The home papers just to hand contain accounts of the loss of the British barge *Inverkip* with all her crew save two, through a collision with the Glasgow barque *Loch Carron*, off the Fastnet, on the 13th August.

The collision was so appallingly sudden that no attempt at rescue could be made. The night, moreover, was very dark, a fresh wind was blowing rain was falling, and a high sea was running.

The *Loch Carron* struck the *Inverkip* almost amidships, crashing into her with great force, with the result that the vessel, which was of 1,466 tons and was carrying a cargo of wheat from Australia to Queenstown, sank in three minutes, twenty-four of her crew and the Captain's wife going down with her.

Only two of the crew of the ill-fated ship were able to save themselves, the carpenter, whose name is variously given as Martin and Lukiman, and a Seaman, named Stewart, who managed to jump on to the *Loch Carron*. They were both injured, one of them having his face badly hurt and three of his fingers cut off. For the time being, there was considerable confusion on board the *Loch Carron*, whose fore rigging had been considerably damaged, and a huge hole stove in her bows, causing great alarm to the crew, who at first feared she was also sinking.

There were also three passengers on board taking the voyage from Greenock to Sydney: Mr. Waston and Mr. B. E. Martin, of London, and Mr. S. Roscoe, of Manchester.

They were in their berths when suddenly an awful crash sent them hurrying on deck with nothing at their sleeping suits on.

The *Inverkip* at this time was locked with the *Loch Carron*, but only for a few minutes, as she parted and was seen to go down head foremost.

The screams of the men were heart-rending and the voice of a woman could be discerned among them, that of the wife of the master of the *Inverkip*, Captain Jones, who was on board the doomed ship with her husband.

Amid the scene of excitement, while attempts were being made to launch the *Loch Carron's* boats, the shouts of the drowning crew of the *Inverkip* could be distinctly heard. However, before the boats could be lowered several of the hands succeeded in closing the watertight bulk-head.

After standing by for a time to see whether any of the crew of the *Inverkip* could be picked up the *Loch Carron* sailed slowly for Queenstown which was reached next day.

Captain Clark, the master of the *Loch Carron*, remained on board quite prostrated.

James Stewart, of Inverness, able seaman on board the *Inverkip*, and one of the two survivors of the ill-fated vessel, who was interviewed at Queenstown by a Press Association representative, said: "The *Loch Carron* struck us between the fore-castle head and the fore rigging. The impact was terrible. The *Loch Carron's* fore-castle rail was level with my position, and I scrambled on board her.

"I did this because I knew that as our ship was struck in a vital part she had little hope of keeping afloat. I then saw the *Inverkip* swing round and fall off to about ten yards.

"Two of the crew I saw make an effort to spring on board from the poop, but they fell into the water between the two ships. I also saw the Captain's wife, in her night-dress, on the poop, screaming and praying, and the Cap-

tain was also there. I then saw the *Invekip* go down. It all occurred in about three minutes. I fear that some of my shipmates got injured on the deck, and I also observed that a few of the crew were making efforts to get a boat out, but before they could do so the *Invekip* went down."

The damage to the *Lock Carron* was considerable and signals of distress were fired.

During the night a steam trawler from Fleetwood came down at 1.30 a.m.; and stood by until daylight

C. & M. Gazette.

A KOREAN TIGER TALE.

Once upon a time a fierce tiger crept stealthily into a village in search of prey. But every one was in bed, the cattle and pigs well guarded behind palisaded walls; not a child, a dog, or even a chicken lingered outside. He was about to retire in despair of finding a supper there when he spied through a small aperture at the bottom of a gate, such as is found in all gates for the egress of dogs and cats, a small, trembling dog.

His majesty tried in vain to squeeze through this hole, and finding it hopeless, took a careful survey of the wall. It was high, it is true, and sharply spiked, but sharply set, too, was the royal appetite, and he resolved to try the leap, after carefully reckoning the height to be surmounted and his own strength.

He was a great, agile fellow, and with the exertion of all his might he jumped, barely escaping the spikes, and landing safely inside the enclosure, quite ready for his supper, well aware that he must snatch it quickly and be gone ere the hunter in the cottage should espy and shoot him.

But puppy had gathered his tail between his legs, and with loud and long kiyies had slipped through the opening to the outer side of the wall.

Nothing remained for our hungry prowler but to try another leap, only to find that his supper had again given him the slip. Alas! that his brains were not equal to his perseverance and industry! I grieve to be obliged to relate that this greedy fellow valuted back and forth in pursuit of his meal, his anger and appetite growing with every leap, until, he died of exhaustion, and fell an ignominious prey to his small and elusive foe, illustrating the fact that might does not always win, and that the small and weak need not always despair in the contest with size and strength.—Mrs. L. H. Underwood, in *The Congregationalist*.

In the biography of John Williams, the martyr of Erromanga, an incident is recorded where he sent a native one day, when he was building the missionary home with a chip, on which he had written with charcoal, to his wife. His wife read the little message, went to the work-shop for a saw and handed it to the native to take to her husband. The native was overwhelmed with wonder when he saw what the chip had meant, how it had carried a message and brought an answer, and how he had been the instrument of it all, and he danced around Williams, saying, "The chip talks, the chip talks." The wonder of being able to communicate to some one at a distance through a piece of dull, lifeless wood was a mystery of the higher world of knowledge to this poor savage. Is not this an illustration of that higher communication which the language of the skies gives us with the throne of our heavenly Father so that we can communicate with One that is out of our view, and receive an answer just as real as that talking chip brought to the missionary through the hand of the wondering native?

The Crossing of the Red Sea.

According to Prof. Haupt, the Song of Moses (Exodus, 15) falls into three sections; each section comprises three stanzas; each stanza consists of two couplets of two double hemistichs each hemistich contains two beats. The student must consult the new number of the American Journal of Semitic Languages for the details of the theory, and textual emendations and criticisms on which it is justified. The general reader will be more interested in the following remarkable passage, in which an old view is confirmed from modern observations.

On December 16th, 1903, the daily papers published a cablegram from St. Petersburg, stating that the Sea of Azov, was disappearing. At Taganrog, near the mouth of the Don, which, next to Odessa, was the leading seaport in southern Russia, the waters are said to have receded to such an extent that the bed of the sea is visible for several verst. (Prof. Haupt's paper, though now published for the first time, was written in December, 1903.) Vessels are lying high and dry, and the greatest confusion prevails in the harbor. During the storm which raged in Baltimore on October 9th and 10th 1903, the greater part of the water was driven out of the upper harbor by the tremendous wind; in spite of the almost phenomenal rainfall many vessels were resting on the bottom.

Major-General Tulloch observed that under a strong east wind the shallow waters of Lake Menzaleh, at the northern entrance to the Suez Canal, receded for a distance of seven miles. There is, therefore, no reason for doubting the historical character of the passage through the Red Sea. Some Israelites may have crossed the former northern end of the Gulf of Suez, south of Lake Timsah, which was still at that time connected with the bitter lakes south of it, but when the Egyptians tried to follow them, the wind shifted, and the flood, which had been driven away by a strong east wind, or, rather, south-east wind, came back, so that, as we read in Exodus 15, horses and chariots were plunged in the sea.—*The Jewish Chronicle*.

As Thou Wilt.

I'll take what Thou art pleased to send,
And yield if Thou no longer lend;
I'll come if Thou the way wilt show,
And flee where Thou forbid'st to go.

Come joy or grief, content I'll rest,
And feel myself supremely blest,
Since nought in earth or heaven can part
The Savior from the loving heart.

So then I'll choose not what I will,
But calmly rest in Thee, be still,
And, guided by Thy gracious hand,
With Thee begin and with Thee end.

Yet pity Thou my weakness, Lord,
And speak again the plighted word,
That nought can e'er betide to part
From Thee my weak and fainting heart.

Unfamiliar Facts.

Johannesburg is renaming its streets on the American system by numbering.

There are words in the Chinese language which have as many as forty different meanings.

The total number of lives lost in coal mines in 1902 was 1,951, compared with 1,467 in 1901.

A Fossil Quarry.

Puck tells us of one of the strangest quarries in the world. It exists near the little town of Kemmerer, Wyoming, at an elevation of eight thousand two hundred feet above sea level. This quarry is worked by hand, no blasting being permitted owing to the fragile nature of its output. The latter consists solely of fossils, mostly those of a few varieties of fish. In operation the shale is split into slabs, broken with sledge hammers, and thrown over the bank by hand. When slabs containing the specimens are cut and taken out, they are very moist and have to be dried out to about one-third of their original weight. Many of these fish fossils are exceedingly beautiful, every bone being plainly shown in the outline. They rank as the finest specimens of fossil fishes yet discovered.

The French Government is now engaged in the restoration of what has been called "the greatest temple ever built on the face of the earth." This is the temple of Karnak, in Egypt, which for over 3,000 years has been falling into ruins. Originally the temple was 370 feet wide and 1,200 feet long, or twice as large as St. Peter's in Rome. It was begun 2,700 years before Christ, and was more than a thousand years in building.

Victory over trial, that is man's only glory. Christ had to suffer before it was possible for Him to reign. The law of life is this: no man can be good, or great, or happy, except through inward that efforts of his own, sustained by faith and strengthened by the grace of God.

The sure cure for discouragement is faith. Discouragement is simply the turning of one's eyes away from God in upon self. Such a turning is sure to bring misery and dissatisfaction. But to lift one's eyes and fix them upon God is to see how weak and impotent and transitory are all our fears and limitations, and how definite and eternal are our hopes and confidences.

Accomplished Children.

Wonderful children have abounded this year. A master of the violin, aged ten; a composer and conductor of fourteen; a songstress of twelve; a pianist of eight; have all entranced Society. A youth of eight has taken the bronze medal of the Academy of Music for pianoforte, counterpoint, and harmony. Now we have a poetess who, at the age of ten, wrote unaided and without study of the work of others (as her father, a Harrow Master, is witness), the following:—

TIME, DEATH, AND LOVE.

Time looked into his Hour Glass,

And proudly raised his head;

"Even the Kings of Nations

Must kneel before me," he said,

"I rule Mankind with my Hour Glass."

But Death, he looked up then,

And spake, as he worked his glittering scythe,

Blighting the lives of men.

"Tis true you rule Mankind, Time,

While they walk beneath the sky,

But when they pass from the earth, Time,

They bow to me and die."

As he wove a maiden's wreath of flowers,

Love spake so bold and free,

"Time and Death, ye are very great,

But ye cannot compare with me;

For thou art Time, and thou art Death,

But I am Eternity."—

Ind. Meth. Times.

REGARDING MISQUOTATIONS.

One of the rules that even young writers and readers should bear in mind is this: "Verify your quotations." And if possible, go to the original source rather than to rely on other authority. The reason for the rule is easy to see. Usually a quotation becomes popular because it is worth while, and to misquote is often to lose the value of the words. Thus people often say, "A little knowledge is a dangerous thing." But that is not true. All knowledge is worth having, even a little. The mean "half-knowledge," or incorrect knowledge, which is not really knowledge at all! What Pope wrote was: "A little learning is a dangerous thing;" and what he meant was that a little learning makes one presumptuous, while thorough learning gives humility—an idea likewise set forth in the saying that wisdom begins with the feeling that one is ignorant. So, Verify your quotations for fear you may put into currency a counterfeit note. At the same time it is to be remembered that some few quotations have been improved by changes introduced by those who have misquoted. These improvements are rare, however, and it is safest to retain the old forms where there is any doubt. Another usual misquotation besides that mentioned is—

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